

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at the bottom of page 5 and extending to the top of page 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The 1<sup>st</sup> aspect of the present invention is a magneto-optical recording medium comprising:

a recording layer having a plurality of columns ~~extending in a lamination direction~~; and

a first under layer which is placed below said recording layer and which functions as a nucleus for said columns,

wherein the plurality of columns extends in a direction perpendicular to the layers.

Please replace the paragraph at the bottom of page 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The 11<sup>th</sup> aspect of the present invention is the magneto-optical recording medium according to the 2<sup>nd</sup> aspect of the present invention, wherein said second under layer has a plurality of columns extending in the direction perpendicular to the layers ~~lamination direction~~.

Please replace the paragraphs starting on line of page 14 and extending onto page 15 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The 43<sup>rd</sup> aspect of the present invention is a method of recording on a magneto-optical recording medium including a recording layer having a plurality of columns ~~extending in a lamination direction~~, and a first under layer which is placed below the recording layer and which functions as a nucleus for the columns, wherein the plurality of columns extends in a direction perpendicular to the layers, said method comprising a data write step of writing predetermined data to the recording layer.

The 44<sup>th</sup> aspect of the present invention is a method of reproduction from a magneto-optical recording medium including a recording layer having a plurality of columns ~~extending in a lamination direction~~, and a first under layer which is placed below the recording layer and which functions as a nucleus for the columns, wherein the plurality of columns extends in a direction perpendicular to the layers, said method comprising a data readout step of reading out predetermined data written to the recording layer.